

quo. He is the President of big Government, high taxes, and an unreformed welfare system.

We all must admit, of course, that President Clinton has some of the attributes of a great leader. He does an outstanding job when he makes a speech or brings the Nation together in times of tragedy. But there is much more to leadership than giving speeches, shaking hands, and acting well before the camera lens. Being a leader is not just eloquence. Being a leader is acting on that eloquence and keeping your word even when it is tough to do so.

Do the American people trust the President's word? Do we in Congress, even some in the President's own party, trust the President's word when he says something? When he makes a commitment, can we be sure that he means it now and will mean it in a week, a month, or a year?

One of my colleagues said recently, more in sorrow than anger, "My problem is I believe 90 percent of what he says and disagree with 90 percent of what he does."

When we look at the glaring difference between what the President says and what he does, our reaction can only be one of profound disappointment. So many chances we have had to set America on a new course, to change the way the Government works, and so many chances lost because the President will not stick to his word.

The President of the United States holds a special elevated place in the minds of the people. More than Congress, more than any other institution, the people look to the President for leadership. His words and his actions are of great importance, and have an immense impact.

The learned historian Donald Kagan, writing about the first great democratic leader who lived more than 2,000 years ago, Pericles of Athens, said:

Every leader who makes any impression at all acts as an educator for good or ill, knowingly or not. His people pay attention to his words and deeds as to few others, and he contributes to their vision of the world, their nation, and themselves and their relations among them.

The leader's vision may be confusing and chaotic, or it may be . . . clear and orderly; it may encourage or discourage; it may degrade or elevate the people.

How shall we assess the President's leadership by this standard? I am saddened, I am disappointed to say it has been confusing and chaotic—to the American people, and to us in Congress. It has been discouraging as well. The President has lifted our hopes by promising he is for welfare reform, tax relief, and a balanced budget, only to discourage us by going back on his word. Time and time again, the President has changed his mind. Things have come to such a sad state that we are no longer surprised when the President breaks a promise. We expect him to be inconsistent more than we expect him to be reliable.

I hope the President will decide that keeping his promises is better politics

than repudiating them. If he does, we can work with him on a balanced budget, tax relief, and welfare reform—all the changes the American people want, changes, indeed, they have wanted for a long time, and that will be of enormous help for the country.

I wish I could be optimistic in this hope, but based on his past record, I doubt President Clinton will sign a balanced budget, tax relief measures, or welfare reform legislation. I doubt he will work with Congress to reduce the size of the Federal Government or to get Government off the people's backs. This is an area, however, Mr. President, in which I hope against hope that the President will prove me wrong.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the impression will not go away: The \$5 trillion Federal debt stands today as an increasingly grotesque parallel to the energizer bunny that keeps moving and moving and moving on television—precisely in the same manner and to the same extent that the President is allowing the Federal debt to keep going up and up and up into the stratosphere.

A lot of politicians like to talk a good game—"talk" is the operative word here—about cutting Federal spending and thereby bringing the Federal debt under control. But watch how they vote on spending bills.

Mr. President, as of the close of business Friday, April 26, the exact Federal debt stood at \$5,096,090,106,286.92 or \$19,250.20 per man, woman, child on a per capita basis.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. VIRGINIA N. FOSTER

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a woman, Virginia N. Foster, who, through her 50 years of service to our Nation, has helped to keep the United States safe and secure, and is someone who is worthy of our thanks.

Many of you may already know Mrs. Foster from your dealings with the Air Force's Directorate of legislative Liaison, where she has worked for the past 21 years. Through 12 Congresses, the 93d to the 104th, she has dutifully and faithfully assisted Members and their staffs in resolving issues and questions concerning the Air Force. Due to her long tenure, she has become more than a valued employee, she has become an important asset to the Air Force, providing her superiors and co-workers with an encyclopedic knowledge of Air Force policy, and an institutional memory that is unmatched by anyone else working in Legislative Liaison Directorate.

What is perhaps most amazing about Mrs. Foster is not necessarily her impressive abilities as an employee, but that her 23 years of working with Congress does not comprise even half of her civil service career, which began in 1944 when she went to work at a Ger-

man Prisoner of War Camp in Texas. In subsequent years, she has held many positions, though since 1951, she has lived in the Washington, DC area where she has never been too far from either the U.S. Congress or the headquarters of the Air Force, both institutions which she has served with devotion and unflagging competence.

Mr. President, Mrs. Foster will mark her fifth decade of Government service on May 1 of this year. On that day, the Air Force will present her with the "Exceptional Civilian Service Award" in recognition of her dedicated work and support, a recognition of which she is truly deserving and in which she can take great pride. I know that those in this Chamber who know Mrs. Foster will want to join me in expressing our gratitude for her assistance to us over the years, and in congratulating her on celebrating 50 years of service to our Nation. We wish her great health and happiness in the years to come, and hope that she continues to be an important part of life on Capitol Hill.

TEXT OF EULOGY TO DR. I. BEVERLY LAKE, SR., BY DR. NORMAN ADRIAN WIGGINS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, a couple of Sunday afternoons ago, several hundred of us gathered at the Baptist Church on the campus of what, until mid-20th century, was Wake Forest College, the marvelous institution that I attended and of which I shall always be proud. (Wake Forest College moved to Winston-Salem in 1954 and is now one of the Nation's prominent universities.)

The multitude came on April 14 to pay our last respects to a great American, Dr. I. Beverly Lake, Sr., who had passed away a couple of days earlier.

At the April 14 services for Dr. Lake, a eulogy was delivered by one of North Carolina's most prominent present-day citizens, Dr. Norman Adrian Wiggins, who, to all of us who know him, is simple Ed Wiggins, our friend.

Mr. President, as Ed Wiggins spoke that afternoon, I was both touched and inspired, yes, but I was also grateful for the blessings of having known both Dr. Lake and Ed Wiggins and for having them as treasured friends.

Dr. Norman Adrian Wiggins is president and professor of law at the rapidly growing Baptist institution in North Carolina, Campbell University, of which years ago, I was honored to serve as trustee.

But, Mr. President, my purpose today is to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the beautiful, caring eulogy to Dr. Lake delivered by Ed Wiggins on Sunday, April 14. I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the eulogy was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EULOGY TO DR. I. BEVERLY LAKE, SR.

(By Dr. Norman Adrian Wiggins)

He is in His presence! He is in His presence! Dr. Isaac Beverly Lake is in the presence of the Master he served during life! All is well.